

Crosswalk Guide Between Old Fire Management Plan Outline and the Interagency Fire Management Plan Template

OLD FIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN OUTLINE	INTERAGENCY FIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN TEMPLATE
<p>1. INTRODUCTION</p> <p>1. The introduction should be a narrative which describes the resource objectives which will be met by the FMP; there should be an indication of compliance with NEPA____ or NHPA. The plan can be related to the enabling legislation, the purpose of the refuge, values to be protected, managed or at risk (describe cultural and historical sites, T&E species, critical habitats, refuge facilities, and private property) that may be threatened from a fire on refuge property in general terms.</p>	<p>I. Introduction</p>
<p>2. The objectives of the refuge's Master or Comprehensive Conservation Plan should be stated as they pertain to the Fire Management Plan. If no Master or Management Plan exists, so state and list objectives from the refuge's operational plan (Marsh and Water Management Plan, Forest Management Plan, Grassland Management Plan, etc.) as they pertain to the Fire Management Plan. List the fire management objectives as derived from the Master or Comprehensive Conservation Plan for the refuge. These objectives may run from broad to the specific but should illustrate what is to be accomplished by the fire management program. Some examples of broad to specific objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Protect life, property, and other resources from unwanted fire. 2. Use fire to accomplish resource management objectives. 3. Restore fire as a natural ecological process. 4. Develop and implement a process to ensure the collection, analysis and application of high quality fire management information needed for sound management decisions. 5. Restore and perpetuate native wildlife species by maintaining a diversity of plant communities. 6. Maintain natural fire as a dynamic ecosystem 	<p>II. Relationship to Land Management Planning/Fire Policy</p>

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<p>process to the maximum extent feasible.</p> <p>7. Remove ladder fuels through successive low intensity management ignited understory burning until fuel loads represent natural levels.</p>	
<p>3. Describe in general the composition of the station or complex fire management organization and position responsibilities for both suppression and prescribed fire. (Individual names and qualifications should be listed only in the Dispatch Plan___ in the Appendix so changes can be made without impacting the entire FMP)</p>	V. Organization and Budget
<p>4. List key interagency contacts by function and include copies of agreements as an appendix. (The contact name, location, alternate persons, telephone numbers for inter and intra-agency activities should be in descending order of contact priority and listed in the Dispatch Plan.)</p>	Appendix
<p>5. Describe the strategies selected to implement fire management objectives. Identify constraints which could impact strategies such as, but not limited to, impacts on wilderness___ or proposed wilderness; endangered species; cultural resources; air quality and smoke management; seasonal influences, etc. Justification for strategies that may not be obvious to the reader should be briefly explained. Strategies that are selected should take advantage of the 2001 Federal Wildland Fire Policy and should reflect that language. For example:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wildland fires will be controlled using the appropriate management strategy. 2. Wildland fires will be managed within prescriptive criteria established otherwise the fire will be treated as an unwanted wildland fire. 3. Fire adapted communities that have not had a significant fire for more than twice the normal fire frequency for that community type may be undergoing change in community structure and function. Depending upon other consideration, prescribed fire should be reintroduced into these communities if the reintroduction is consistent with land use objectives established for the communities. 4. No use of retardant in areas under consideration for wilderness, except in life-threatening situations, without the express approval of the refuge manager. 5. No use of mechanical equipment in cultural areas 	III. Wildland Fire Management Strategies

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<p>without the area first being examined by an archeologist.</p>	
<p>2. DESCRIPTION OF REFUGE (if not covered in the refuge's Master or Comprehensive Conservation Plan)</p> <p>1. This is a narrative description about the refuge including topography, climate, vegetative communities of significance, wildlife resources, water resources, threatened and endangered species, cultural resources, air quality concerns, soils , facilities, social-political-economic concerns, neighboring landowners.</p> <p>2. Briefly provide general fire ecology information on the refuge including any historic or current fire regime information; information on fire weather and season(s), fuel types and fire behavior___ characteristics; the effect that fire has on species of plants or wildlife of concern, effects to other resources such as air, vegetation communities, water, or political impacts to the refuge. Some of this may be covered in general terms here with greater detail in the Fire Management Unit (FMU) section.</p>	<p>II. Relationship to Land Management Planning/Fire Policy (if not adequately cover in the refuge's Comprehensive Conservation Plan or step-down plans)</p>
<p>3. WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM - The Wildland Fire Management Program consists of preparedness, prescribed fire and wildland fire where fire is used to achieve resource objectives. The Fire Management Plan___ covers all aspects of the program looking at general preparedness for the refuge or complex and then focusing on wildland and prescribed fire aspects of the program.</p>	<p>IV. Wildland Fire Management Program Components</p>
<p>1. PREPAREDNESS</p> <p>1. Describe the fire season___ and range of potential fire behavior as it relates to fire protection and prevention by fuel types, historic weather patterns, drought etc. Where appropriate, include flame length, rate of spread, burning index___, and energy release component by month and season.</p> <p>2. Describe the work needed annually to ensure fire readiness of personnel, equipment and supplies. Detailed training needs by individual should not be identified within the FMP but should be developed each year based on personnel needs. Detail when cache equipment is readied, who does it, what</p>	<p>IV.A. Wildland Fire Suppression</p>

<p>firebreaks are to be put in, including a description of the type of firebreak to be used, etc.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Step-up Plans should be referenced here to ensure an understanding of when to implement and what the plan means. 4. Effect of Regional or national preparedness level on refuge activities. 5. Pre-attack plans should be referenced here to ensure an understanding of when to implement and what the plan means. 6. Rehabilitation preplanning, if done, should be referenced here to ensure an understanding of when to implement and what the plan means. 	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. PRESCRIBED FIRE <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe long-term prescribed burn program necessary to achieve management objectives. If all or part (give percentage) of a burn supports the recovery of a threatened or endangered species, discuss this part of the program and reference the specific fire management unit(s). 2. Describe general plan for prescribed burning program, including annual activities to prepare for and implement the program including training. Do not include copies of Prescribed Fire Plans or prescription elements. Discussing prescription elements in the Fire Management Plan is no longer an option; they must be specifically defined in each Prescribed Fire Plan. 3. Correlate with strategy and objectives sections. Define the normal prescribed fire burning seasons; and are they normal or bimodal (two periods per year)? 4. Identify the fire behavior and fire effects monitoring requirements. Include short and long-term appraisals. Emphasize measurements and/or evaluations needed to determine if objectives have been met. 5. Discuss the complexity of the prescribed fire program (the NWCG Prescribed Fire Complexity Rating System Guide could be useful). This analysis should discuss factors such as fuel types, smoke management, type of burn, size of burn, fire behavior, number of burns being executed during the same time, public and political feeling. 6. Discuss potential impacts of the plan 	<p>IV. C. Prescribed Fire</p>

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<p>implementation (visitors, users, and local communities), both on and off site. Include environmental, sociological, and economic impacts, and discussion of what impacts may be unacceptable and how to mitigate them.</p> <p>7. Provide format for critiques of prescribed burn operations.</p>	
<p>3. WILDLAND FIRE</p> <p>1. FIRE MANAGEMENT UNITS (FMUs) - FMUs are areas on a refuge which may have common wildland fire management objectives and strategies; are manageable units from only a wildland fire standpoint; can be based on natural or manmade fuel breaks. An FMU should not be confused with a prescribed fire burn block or treatment area or unit. On smaller refuges the whole refuge may be treated as a single FMU. Generally, the narrative write-up for an FMU should explain how wildland fire operations will be handled within that FMU. Any operational question that a wildland fire specialist might have should be answered within the FMU narrative. The FMU narrative could serve as the basis for a briefing for an Incident Management Team. The detail of explanation and types of information presented will depend on the wildland fire objectives for the unit but some examples of items to include :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fuel types (FBPS and NFDRS). Identify important or indicator species that are benefited or harmed by fire. (If covered under Refuge Description so note). 2. Fire behavior by fuel types in each of the "normal" and "extreme" fire years. (Normal and extreme should be defined by 100 or 1,000-hour time lag fuel moisture, BI, ERC, Keetch-Byram drought index, etc.) (If covered under Refuge Description so note). 3. Fire effects by fuel types under various conditions of fuels, weather, soil and other influential variables. (4) Annual fire weather cycle, including extremes. 4. Restrictions on uses of retardants/foams, mechanical equipment or other activities that may not be permitted. 	<p>III. D. Description of Wildland Fire Management Strategies by Fire Management Unit (Zones) (FMU/FMZ)</p>
<p>2. Identify the process for determining when</p>	<p>IV. B. Wildland Fire</p>

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<p>and where a wildland fire will be use to achieve resource management objectives. Prescriptive criteria must be established for any use of wildland fire to achieve resource management objectives for each FMU. Prescriptive criteria define the conditions under which the wildland fire will achieve the objectives developed and include provision for public safety and the protection of property. (See discussion on prescriptive criteria at the beginning of this section). The appropriate management response will be described in detail. Identify the conditions when the appropriate management response is "unsuccessful", thereby necessitating the use of the Wildland Fire Situation Analysis.</p>	<p>Use</p>
<p>3. If the use of wildland fire to achieve resource management objectives is not appropriate, then suppression objectives will be identified for each FMU. If suppression objectives are to be implemented, then a discussion of how initial attack is to be conducted; transition from initial attack to extended attack, and further transitions will be included. If initial actions are not successful, the the Wildland Fire Situation Analysis will be used to plan further actions.</p> <p>4. Wildland Fire Situation Analysis: Specify daily preparation or revalidation to derive fire potential probable growth, and suppression resources that would be needed to make an appropriate management response if the fire were to be declared an unplanned and unwanted wildland fire. Document actions needed to protect special resources (natural and cultural) and provide for the public safety.</p>	<p>IV. 4. Wildland Fire Suppression</p>
<p>4. AIR QUALITY / SMOKE MANAGEMENT CONCERNS - Any requirements in the State Implementation Plan which may have an impact on the refuge should be discussed. (See Section 2.3.1-5).</p>	<p>IV. A-E. as appropriate per section</p>
<p>5. PUBLIC INFORMATION AND EDUCATION - Any activities</p>	<p>IV. A-E. as</p>

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conducted by the Fire Management Program which can have a negative impact on the public should be addressed along with mitigating actions. Any educational programs that the Program may support should be briefly described. The refuge may add to the FMP outline as deemed necessary in order to provide a complete picture of the Fire Management Program.	appropriate per section
6. APPENDICES 1. Normal Unit Strength (NUS) inventory (should include items normally stocked in fire cache to support wildland and prescribed fire operations including engines and other equipment supported by FIREBASE funding) 3. Refuge planning documents cited 4. Cooperative agreements 5. Additional fire management plans needed to fully execute the Fire Management Plan as well as a listing of tables, charts or maps may be included as appropriate.	Appendix
2. Definitions if needed to described refuge specific operations	Glossary